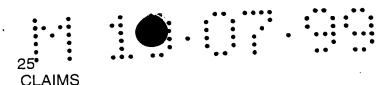


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An apparatus for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content,

5 characterized in that:

memory means for storing display information representing an animated image;

control means for determining whether a selected program is the first type of program having both audio and video content or the second type of program having audio-only content; and the control means causes the playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content when the selected program is a first type of program and causes the playing of the audio-only content and displaying of the animated image when the selected program is a second type of program.

- 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the control means determines the type of program based on program guide information received.
- 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein program guide information is displayed along with the animated image.
- 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the animated image serves as a screen saver.
- 5. An apparatus for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content, characterized in that:

memory means for storing display information representing an animated image;

user control means for selecting a first and a second mode;
control means for determining whether a selected program is the first
type of program having both audio and video content or the second type of program

having audio-only content; and

the control means causes, when the selected program is a first type of program, the playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content; and causes, when the selected program is a second type of program, in the first mode,

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only content;

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the playing of the audio-only content and displaying of the animated image, and in the second mode, the playing of the audio-only content and displaying of a static screen.

- 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the static screen is a blank screen.
- 7. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the static screen is a blue screen.
- 8. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the control means determines the type of program based on program guide information received.
 - 9. A method for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content, characterized in that:

storing display information representing an animated image;
determining whether a selected program is the first type of program
having both audio and video content or the second type of program having audio-

causing the playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content when the selected program is a first type of program; and

causing the playing of the audio-only content and displaying of the animated image when the selected program is a second type of program.

- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the determining step is based on program guide information received.
- 11. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of displaying program guide information along with the animated image.

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12. A method for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content, characterized in that:

storing display information representing an animated image;

selecting a first and a second mode;

determining whether a selected program is the first type of program having both audio and video content or the second type of program having audio-only content;

causing, when the selected program is a first type of program, the playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content;

and causing, when the selected program is a second type of program, in the first mode, playing of the audio-only content and displaying of the animated image, and in the second mode, playing of the audio-only content and displaying of a static screen.

- 13. The method of claim 12 wherein the static screen is a blank screen.
- 14. The method of claim 12 wherein the static screen is a blue screen.
- 15. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the determining step is based on program guide information received.
- 25 16. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the animated image serves as a screen saver.